From: Daniel Rios
To: PD Detective Bureau
Cc: Paul Van Meel
Subject: 24-0011642 - Suspicious Circs - Red Van & 13 year old female
Date: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 3:23:59 PM
Attachments: Outlook-2tivsiui.png

Hey gang,

Just a heads up in case we get any calls/inquiries on this. At 1615 hours yesterday, Fell took an incident report regarding a 13-year old being heckled at by a van full of men near Bunny and McClelland while walking home from El Camino Junior High. If you haven't heard, there is a lot of buzz on social media re: alleged kidnapping attempts in SM after the Tunnel School incident (Craven's case) hit the media. This girl's family also posted something on this case on Chisme. The kid in this case didn't report any physical contact or attempts, but only verbal and hearing the van door open according to Fell's report. This may get assigned to SVU for follow-up if necessary, but here's the narrative below.

I'll follow-up with Trevor tomorrow.

Thanks,
Danny

FELL'S NARRATIVE:
On August 26, 2024, at approximately 1615 hours, I was dispatched to 534 E Orchard, for the report of a possible attempted kidnapping. The reporting party was hysterical and unable to answer any of dispatch's questions.

Upon arrival, I contacted the reporting party, Wendy Mendez. Mendez was 13 years old and was visibly shaking and crying. I spoke to her outside the residence on a bench. The following is a summary of Mendez' statement, for further details refer to the AXON BWC recordings.

Mendez stated she was walking home from El Camino Junior Highschool, 219 W El Camino, with a friend. Mendez advised she walked to Bunny and Broadway with her friend before continuing east on Bunny towards her residence. Mendez was not sure of the street names or addresses. Mendez believed the incident happened on Bunny and once I showed her the map. Mendez believed the incident occurred on Bunny between Broadway and Miller. Mendez advised she passed a red older model van parked along the north side of the street and saw it was occupied by 4 or 5 older males. Mendez was not able to provide a description of any on the occupants other than the rear driver's side

passenger. Mendez advised the male was approximately 30 to 40 years old, "Americanized Hispanic," heavy set, wearing a navy blue short sleeve shirt, blue LA Dodger's hat, black ski mask, and visible sideburns. Mendez was not able to describe any other occupants of the van.

Mendez advised as she was walking past the van the male yelled out to her, "Come here little girl, I have some candies for you." Mendez heard the sliding door of the van slam open and she took off running. Mendez was scared for her life and stated she ran all the way home without stopping. Mendez did not look back to see if anyone was chasing her. She thought she heard the van start driving but she did not look back to see where the van drove.

While I was contacting Mendez, her mother, Bianca Contreras, arrived on scene. Mendez thought she would be able to identify the male and the vehicle if she saw them again. I provided them both the case number and requested they contact me with any further information.

Officers responded to the reported area and was unable to locate any vehicle matching or witnesses in the area. I later drove the area and was not able to locate any surveillance cameras facing the street in the area. I checked Flock Safety cameras for any vehicle matching Mendez' description in the reported area and was unable to identify a possible associated red van.

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